

Public Information Department, 11150 East Blvd., Cleveland, Ohio 44106; 216/421-7340

PRESS RELEASE

October 10, 1989

HISTORIANS OF NETHERLANDISH ART HOLD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE AT MUSEUM

Internationally-recognized authorities on Dutch and Flemish art will participate in an international conference, sponsored by the Historians of Netherlandish Art, at The Cleveland Museum of Art from October 26 through 28, 1989. The conference, entitled In Search of the Netherlandish Tradition: Patterns of Continuity and Exchange, brings together over 200 prominent European and American scholars to examine and discuss the distinctive character of Flemish and Dutch art of the 15th, 16, and 17th centuries. Cleveland was chosen as the site of the conference because of the important collections of Netherlandish art at The Cleveland Museum of Art and the Allen Memorial Art Museum at Oberlin College, Oberlin, Ohio. Both museums have planned special exhibitions to coincide with the conference.

Among the scholars who will speak at the conference are Julius Held, Professor Emeritus, Barnard College, Columbia University, the author of the standard reference on Rembrandt; Simon Schama of the Center for European Studies, Harvard University, author of the best-selling The Embarrassment of Riches: An Interpretation of Dutch Culture in the Golden Age; two of the Netherlands' most respected art historians, Eddy de Jongh of the University of Utrecht and Ilja Maria Veldman of the Free University of Amsterdam; Albert Chatelet of the Institut d'Histoire de l'Art, Strasbourg, France, an authority on early Flemish and Dutch painting; Svetlana Alpers of the University of California at Berkeley, a leading Rubens and Rembrandt scholar; and Adam Milobedzki of the University of Warsaw, Poland, an internationally renowned architectural historian.

In eleven sessions, beginning Thursday, October 26, and ending Saturday, October 28, scholars will share their research on specific Netherlandish works of art, ranging from painting and graphic arts to sculpture, stained glass, and architecture. Sessions will cover such diverse topics as artistic relationships between the Netherlands and other countries; patronage and collecting; and the role of modern technology in understanding works of art. An exhibit on infrared reflectography and its use in exposing drawings beneath old master paintings will be installed at the Museum during the conference.

Sessions, almost all of which will be held at The Cleveland Museum of Art, are open to the public at no charge. Participation in other conference events requires a registration fee. A complete schedule and further information can be obtained from Dr. Charles Scillia, Department of Art History, John Carroll University, Cleveland, Ohio 44118 (phone: 216/397-4388).

The conference is made possible by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities, The Netherland-America Foundation, the Samuel H. Kress Foundation, and The Netherlands-American Amity Trust, with the support of The Cleveland Museum of Art, the Allen Memorial Art Museum, John Carroll, Case Western Reserve, Ohio State, and Kent State Universities.

A separate press release describes The Cleveland Museum of Art's exhibitions of Netherlandish art: **Northern Landscape Traditions: 16th- and 17th-Century Prints and Drawings** and **Netherlandish Drawings from the Permanent Collection**. Admission to the Museum and these exhibitions is free.

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